

GOVERNING BOARD OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

NEWSLETTER

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Physical Agent Modality

The Administrative Rules for the Practice of Physical Agent Modalities (PAMs) by NH licensed occupational therapists and occupational therapy assistants have been completed and are posted on this website. There is a six month window for all NH licensed OTs and OTAs to obtain a certificate. All OTs or OTAs (including those currently using PAMs in their practice via the "grandfather" eligibility requirements when the law was passed) must complete this certificate process by September 30, 2005.

To obtain a certificate, OTs and OTAs will need to have completed 6 hours of continuing education in ultrasound and 15 hours in electrical stimulation modalities. The specific content is addressed in the rules- see Occ 305.05 (a) and (b). Education received in the past can be applied towards the certification as long as it specifically meets the requirements. Evidence of the continuing education will need to be organized and submitted and exactly match all of the content required in the rules. The board will not spend time trying to interpret evidence submitted. Any applications where this is not clear will be returned to the applicant for further organization/clarification.

Two education waivers are being granted:

1. Active CHT certification.
2. OTs/OTAs who are also PTs/PTAs.

In addition, supervision of the modalities listed in the rules will need to be completed. The rules require that the applicant complete as many supervised applications as necessary to demonstrate competency to the supervisor. See Occ 305.07 A supervised application waiver will be granted for the following:

1. NH licensed OTs/OTAs who hold valid NH PT/PTA licenses.

The application process is still being developed and should be available sometime in April 2005. Please continue to monitor this site for further updates.